

Sea. Skirmishes lasted three more weeks. On March 17, when the remaining Georgian forces had been pushed back almost to the outskirts of Batum, the Georgian government recognized that further resistance was futile and disbanded the troops. Members of the Cabinet and the Parliament escaped abroad by sea.

It became our task in Paris to mobilize public opinion in support of Georgia's cause. There was still hope that, in the course of final settlement of frontier disputes, the Great Powers would force Communist Russia to relinquish Georgia.

The moderate Socialist parties used Georgia's case to challenge European Communist sympathizers to take a stand on this flagrant violation of the rights of small nations.<sup>4</sup> But all efforts were futile to mobilize moral forces in defense of a small nation raped by the Red Giant. The free nations of Europe were passing through a difficult crisis. The Entente that had crushed Germany was crumbling. Civil war was flaring behind the Rhine. France and Great Britain were drifting further and further apart. Great Britain was becoming increasingly interested in the economic recovery and stabilization of political conditions in Germany, while France preferred to see Germany economically weak and politically divided. The Great Powers, ready to make a deal with the Soviets, would not lift a finger or even raise their voices to help Georgia.

Jordania, members of his government, and a few other political leaders came to Paris. The Georgian legations in Paris, Rome, and Berlin had to pool their funds to support the refugees. Salaries of the personnel retained by the Paris legation were cut to bare subsistence. We moved from our expensive apartment to very modest quarters, but, as long as the legation needed our services, we continued to work with it.

About this time my mother came to Paris. She told us of my father's death. The Communist coup in November, 1917, had found him in Terioki, Finland. After the withdrawal of Russian authorities, a local council was established in the township. All groups of the population elected their representatives to the council, and my father was nominated by the landowners. In 1919, Finland was invaded by the corps of General Mannerheim, a counterrevolutionary gang similar to Denikin's Volunteers. My father was arrested. Threatened with death, he suffered a stroke in prison. After they brought him home, a second and fatal stroke followed.

As soon as the Finnish frontier was opened, my mother went to Terioki to care for my father's grave and liquidate the estate. Then

<sup>4</sup> The Georgian legation in Paris published a symposium of articles and resolutions on Georgia and its annexation by Russia (*L'Internationale Socialiste et la Georgia*, 296 pp. & viii, Paris, 1921), which Emma and I had prepared.